Statutory Authority for ITI

215 SHRI SARAT PATTANAYAK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to set up a statutory authority to regulate Industrial Training Institute (ITI) both in public and private sector, and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM) : (a) and (b) The proposal is at the discussion stage and the details have not been finalised.

Use of Imported Coal by Steel Industries

216. SHRI S.B. THORAT : Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state :

(a) whether an expert group on export of iron and steel has flayed heavy import of coking coal during the last 5 years;

(b) if so, the quantity of coking coal imported by the steel industries during the last three years alongwith cost thereof, year-wise and plant-wise;

(c) the other details of the recommendations made by an Expert Committee; and

(d) the action taken to reduce imports?

THE MINISTER OF STEEL AND MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA) : (a) and (b) The Expert Group on Export of Iron and Steel set up by the Government has not yet submitted its report.

(c) and (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[Translation]

Slum Dwellers

217. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have taken any decision to issue 'No objection certificate' to the slum dwellers on Railways land in Mumbai to enable them to get water and power connections; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI SATPAL MAHARAJ) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[English]

Recognition of Trade Unions by Secret Ballots

218. SHRI BADAL CHOUDHURY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government propose to accord recognition to trade unions by secret ballots;

(b) if so, whether any legislation likely to be enacted in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI ARUNACHALAM) : (a) to (c) The issue of determination of the representative character of trade unions by secret ballot has been referred to the Bipartite Committee constituted by the Ministry of Labour and consisting of representatives of employers and workers. Further course of action will depend on the recommendation of the committee.

[Translation]

Subsidy from the Union Government

219. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ :
SHRI NAWAL KISHORE RAI :

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether Indian Airlines has sought subsidy from the Union Government;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the amount of the subsidy sought by it;

(c) the reasons for which subsidy has been sought;

(d) whether the Government have considered over the said demand; and

(e) if so, the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM) : (a) to (e) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines has requested the Ministry to consider payment of subsidy for operations to North East Sector, Jammu and Kashmir and Andaman and Nicobar Islands. With the entry of private Airlines, Indian Airlines share of the trunk routes declined considerably resulting in heavy losses to Indian Airlines. It could no longer cross-subsidise its losses in the un-economic sectors. Therefore, the airlines submitted this proposal for subsidy.

A Committee of experts have been constituted to make a comprehensive examination of the reasons for such losses and propose strategy for turning around Indian Airlines in the context of competitive market environment. The Committee is expected to submit its report shortly.

[English]

Development of Coastal Railway Line

220. SHRI V.M. SUDHEERAN : Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have received any comprehensive proposal for the development of coastal railway line between Ernakulam-Kayamkulam via Alleppey;